

TRADITIONAL CHAPELS IN ALABAMA

Our Lady of Lourdes Roman Catholic Chapel Montgomery, Alabama	St. Francis of Assisi Roman Catholic Chapel Cullman, Alabama	St. Pius V Roman Catholic Chapel Birmingham, Alabama
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S C H E D U L E O F M A S S E S

10:30 A.M. - Rosary 10:45 A.M. - Mass (ONLY on First Sunday of each month)	6:00 A.M. 10:00 A.M. Every Sunday 6:00 A.M. 7:00 P.M. Holy Days	9:10 A.M. - Rosary 9:30 A.M. - Mass (EXCEPT on first Sunday of each month)
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THE TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Weekly Bulletin #481

(Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
or - Addition Mass 3 Three)

Feast of Dedication of the Archbasilica of our Holy Saviour.

November 9, 1997 - - White

Mass of Feast; Gl; Or. of Feast, Sun., A Domo; Cr; Pref Common.

Because of the approach of Advent, we must depart from our usual meditation on prayer, and begin preparation for the coming Season of Advent. Therefore, we begin.

The central ornament of our churches is the altar. Upon it is daily celebrated, wherever it is possible, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Sunday after Sunday the people flock around the altar to offer up with their priest the great sacrifice of Christ, and to receive from the hands of their priest the Food for their souls. From the Sunday celebration of the Eucharistic Mysteries the people return to their homes, there to live out in the various yet simple duties of their family life, the offering they made of themselves at the Sunday Mass. Mother Church has always considered the home as the ideal place where her teachings and her sacraments, both given in the church, should find their fruit. The Church has always considered family life as the soil in which the word of her teaching and the grace of her sacraments should strike deep root and bear abundant fruit. It is in the home that Mother Church expects father and mother and children to "live the Mass" that they offered on the preceding Sunday. It is also in the home that the family is to center its prayer life. Whenever the bigger family of God, the church -- the small chapels we commonly see today in Traditional Circles ---, gathers for prayer, it does so around the Holy Altar. So, too, when the little family gathers for prayer in in "family church", it should do so around some family shrine or altar. Or course these are not necessary. But they are a great means and helps for the beginning and the promotion of family prayer and devotion in common. The family shrine or altar serves to increase family unity and family interests.

The home is for the Catholic family much more than merely a house or building. In the Catholic way of thinking it is the place where holy people live, work, sleep, and pray during their sojourn here below until, such a time when God calls them to their eternal home of heaven. The spiritual birth of Baptism, and the spiritual nourishment of the Holy Eucharist are given the proper atmosphere and surroundings in which to grow and increase and strengthen. It is in our Monastic Homes that we develop the temperament of holiness. After the Mass is completed at the altar, the living of the divine life reaches its fulfillment in the family circle. Within the family circle, fathers and mothers make all their work a part of the Sacrifice of the Mass which was offered on the preceding Sunday. Within the family circle, fathers and mothers make the prayer life of the family an echo of their prayer they uttered together with their priest as he stood before the Altar of God.

For this, therefore, are we stressing this Advent's project: Monastic Home Altars. Further description of the Altar is attached to this Bulletin.

1. Keep in mind that November is devoted to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. Matters concerning the HEROIC ACT OF CHARITY will be found on the reverse side of this Bulletin.
2. Please remember the Sick and Shut-Ins of our Chapels, especially remembering Al Sachs and Ethel Wallace (Cullman Chapel).

MAKY THEM REST IN PEACE.

THE HEROIC ACT OF CHARITY for the Holy Souls in Purgatory. The Faithful are encouraged to make this most wonderful promise, intended for the welfare of the Souls in Purgatory. It is certainly not a matter of obligation, and if the offering is made, it must be made freely, privately, and without show. It is an act of TOTAL giving up of every personal propitiatory benefit, whether personally earned or received as a gift - DURING ONE'S LIFETIME, AND AS WELL AFTER DEATH!!!! Nothing is kept back for one's own personal benefit. Information concerning the Act and the Act, itself, follow here.

THE HEROIC ACT OF CHARITY

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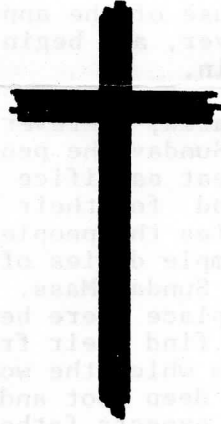
- a) **T**he faithful who make the heroic act in favor of the souls detained in purgatory, may gain:

A plenary indulgence, applicable only to the dead:

1° on any day that they receive Holy Communion, if they have made their confession and visited some church or public oratory and prayed for the intentions of the Sovereign Pontiff;

2° on any Monday of the year, or if some impediment arises, on the following Sunday, if they attend Mass in supplication for the faithful departed and moreover fulfill the usual conditions.

- b) Priests, who make the aforesaid heroic act, may enjoy the indult of a personal privileged altar every day of the year (S. C. Ind., Sept. 30, 1852 and Nov. 20, 1854; S. P. Ap., Jan. 26, 1932).



Heroic act of Charity for the Poor Souls:

O my God, in union with the merits of Jesus and Mary, I offer Thee for the souls in Purgatory, all my propitiatory works, and all those which others may apply to me during life or after my death. I beseech Thee, O my God, to accept this offering, for Thy honor and the salvation of my soul. Amen.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK: (Abbot Leonard's Schedule Only)

SUNDAY: For the People of the Chapels
MONDAY: Welfare of Ethel Wallace
TUESDAY: Dec. Isaac Soileau
WEDNESDAY: Special Int. Angela Connelly
THURSDAY: Dec. Fred Cornell
FRIDAY: Intentions of Maeta
SATURDAY: Dec. Robert Alexson

The 1998 Calendars will soon be available. The cost this year - AGAIN - is a bit more. The cost will be \$6.00. We charge exactly what we have to pay for them. It is good for every Catholic Family to have a Catholic Calendar in the Home - The Monastic Home.

As usual contact:

Mrs. Roy in Montgomery
Mrs. Niebuhr in Birmingham
Father Abbot in Cullman.

The Calendars are very lovely this year. They feature the Blessed Mother.

Monastic Home Altars

Once again it is time for us to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child! This year, the great Advent Season begins on November 30. Once again we have an Advent project to talk about. You will recall last year's project - the "Do-It-Yourself Christmas Crib". The families that participated in the project enjoyed it greatly. As we work to develop "Monastic Homes" we must employ every pertinent and intelligible practice that will help that development.

So many of us complain that we do not have churches to visit, churches where we can spend time giving adoration to our Blessed Lord - on a regular basis. The complaint is valid and the absence of proper churches is a deplorable situation. Never defeated, we simply do the best we can with what we have at our disposal to work. If we do not have authentic altars to kneel before, then we shall construct altars in our own homes - our Monastic Homes. That which we shall construct will be miniature home altars, and that will be our Advent project this year.

First, we must locate a corner, or space, that is accessible to all, and one that can be dedicated to Our Lord on a permanent basis. The location of the altar should be in an area that is not too busy and an area that is usually free from clutter - a pleasant and inviting area in the house. Then we should place a small table, about the size of a rectangular coffee table, and about 30 inches high. The table should be covered with appropriate doilies - white in color and neatly washed and pressed. After this has been done, the real excitement begins, for now it is time to BUILD our little Monastic Home Altar. Excellent ideas can be obtained from many holy cards - a simple blue-print can be found on the reverse side of this page. The altars might be about 15 inches long, about 7 inches or so deep, and about 7 inches high to the table top. These are the essential dimensions. Whatever other decoration and detail one wishes to incorporate into the structure is left up to the imagination of the builders. It is understood that the children should be very much involved in this project. While the men of the family are busy constructing the altar, the ladies of the family should be busy sewing the needed linens. Tabernacle veils are needed, and altar cloths, and antependiums (frontals). Since our altars are classified as "liturgical altars" a certain amount of simplicity is advised, and on liturgical altars usually the front of the altar is draped with an antependium. The antependium and the tabernacle veils match each other, and are the adornment of the altar according to the color of the day: each day is different, because it is determined either by the season or the feast that is being observed and celebrated. The several colors of the liturgy are: red, purple, white, gold, green and rose.

Candles will also be needed, and the small white birthday cake candles are excellent. Small candle holders can be made using whatever imagination one has. Any appropriate or manufactured object is quite fitting. Whatever art ability one has in the making of these things should be readily employed. Tiny vases for tiny seasonal flowers will add to the beauty of this lovely scene.

This Monastic Home Altar will need daily attention, and consequently will be a cause of wonderful and tremendously important instruction. Since the altar must be constantly changed, because of the changing Seasons and the observation of the various Saints' feasts, reading and study become quite necessary. This will be a great learning experience for both the children and their parents. The use of the missal is absolutely necessary. If the Saint is a martyr, the altar should be in red; if a non-martyr, the altar should be in white. When not celebrating any given Saint, the altar should be in the color of the Season. The color of rose is used for the two Sundays of Laetare and Gaudete. Gold is used for the really great feasts such as Christmas and Easter.

There should not be a clutter of Holy Cards stacked up and around this little altar, as they tend to distract. Some family favorite Saints' statues are very much in order, and a small crucifix should be placed over the tabernacle. This should be sufficient.

As you can see, this tiny and blessed spot in our Monastic Homes can be a source of excellent Catholic education, and a cause for wholesome prayer life, and productive of a sound Catholic devotion. It will soon become the cause of a healthy spiritual atmosphere in the room where it is located, because it will be the center of much interest and concern. The atmosphere of this room might well influence the atmosphere of the entire house.

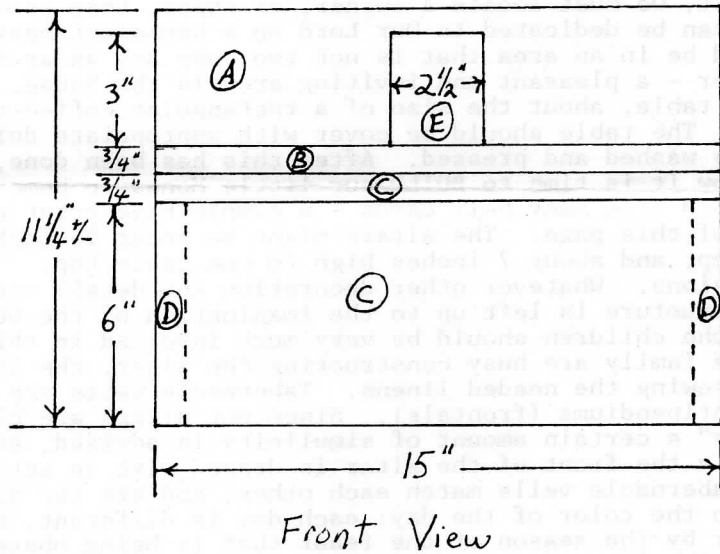
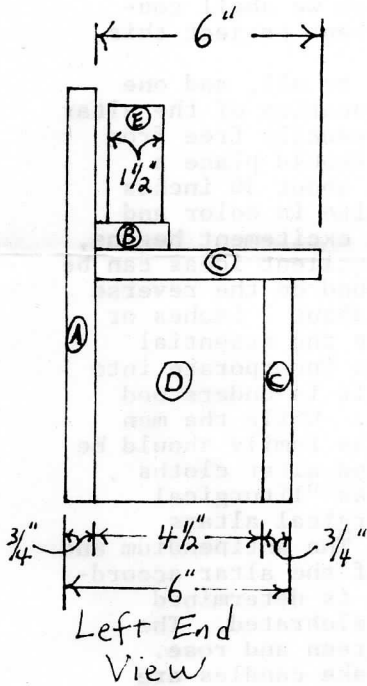
The most correct time to make the daily changes on the altar is sometime before VESPER TIME (evening time). The altar should be changed in the observance of the following day's celebration. The Vesper Time is a good time for the Family Rosary, and the other prayers usually recited by the Family.

Not only will the children profit by this small devotion, but the grown ups, as well, will be affected by it, and the unbroken continuity of our ancestral Catholic ages will continue to be in evidence to those who might approach the limits of our Catholic Monastic Homes - - hopefully to be edified and inspired

No doubt, questions will come up, from time to time, concerning this small observation. At such times, a quick call to the Monastery will solve the problems. God Bless You, and keep you in His Love!!!



Monastic Home Altar



- * (A) - 1 Piece: $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 15" x $11\frac{1}{4}$ " \pm
 (B) - 1 Piece: $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 15" x 2"
 (C) - 2 Pieces: $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 15" x 6"
 (D) - 2 Pieces: $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 6" x $4\frac{1}{2}$ "
 (E) - 2 Pieces: $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 3" x $2\frac{1}{2}$ " glued back to back
 (OR: 1 Piece $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 3" x $2\frac{1}{2}$ ")

* Whole Altar can be made out of one Piece of 1" x 12" x 6' Pine Shelving